St. Paul's Episcopal Church

In the Episcopal Diocese of East Carolina



The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost August 29, 2021

Open doors. Open hearts. Open hands. We will welcome all to live God's mission, teach Christ's love and transform our community by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Eucharist

Voluntary

St. Anthony Chorale

Johannes Brahms

Processional Hymn 525

The Church's One Foundation

Aurelia

Celebrant

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Celebrant

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Gloria



The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. *Amen*.

The people may be seated.

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

Moses said: So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you.

You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 15

Domine, quis habitabit?

- 1 LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? who may abide upon your holy hill?
- 2 Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, who speaks the truth from his heart.
- 3 There is no guile upon his tongue; he does no evil to his friend; he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.
- 4 In his sight the wicked is rejected, but he honors those who fear the LORD.
- 5 He has sworn to do no wrong and does not take back his word.
- 6 He does not give his money in hope of gain, nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.
- 7 Whoever does these things shall never be overthrown.

A Reading from James 1:17-27

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act-they will be blessed in their doing.

If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

The Gradual Hymn 493 O for a thousand tongues to sing

Azmon

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

'This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.'

You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile." For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Reverend Caleb J. Lee

The Nicene Creed BCP 358

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

the only Son of God,

eternally begotten of the Father,

God from God, Light from Light,

true God from true God, begotten, not made,

of one Being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven:

by the power of the Holy Spirit

he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Celebrant: Let us pray for the Church and for the world, saying Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Intercessor: Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy *Hear our prayer*.

Intercessor: Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy *Hear our prayer*.

Intercessor: Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy *Hear our prayer*.

Intercessor: Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy *Hear our prayer*.

Intercessor: Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; we pray especially for all who suffer with the coronavirus and all in the parish who have asked for prayers. Give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy *Hear our prayer*.

Intercessor: We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy *Hear our prayer*.

Celebrant: O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *Amen*.

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Minister and People

Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you in thought word and deed,

by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,

have mercy on us and forgive us;

that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,

to the glory of your name. Amen.

The Celebrant concludes with an absolution

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Announcements

Anthem

Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me

K. Lee Scott

Gracious Spirit, dwell with me! I would gracious be, help me now thy truth to see, I would be like thee. And with words that help and heal thy life in mine reveal; and with actions bold and meek for Christ my Saviour speak.

Truthful Spirit dwell with me! I would truthful be, and with wisdom kind and clear thy life in mine reveal and with actions brotherly speak Christ's sincerity.

Mighty Spirit dwell with me! I would holy be, separate from sin, I would and cherish all things good; and whatever I can be give him who gave me thee.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below, alleluia, alleluia! Praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer A)

BCP 361

CelebrantThe Lord be with you.PeopleAnd also with you.CelebrantLift up your hearts.PeopleWe lift them to the Lore

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

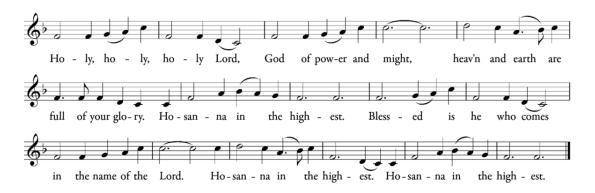
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

For you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People

Sanctus Land of Rest



Then the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father now and for ever. *AMEN*.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

The Lord's Prayer BCP 364

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

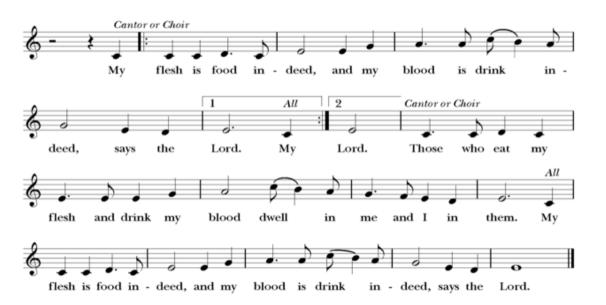
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem

Hymnal S169



The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion Hymn 455 Communion Hymn

O love of God, how strong and true All who hunger gather gladly Dunedin Holy Manna

All who hunger, gather gladly;
holy manna is our bread.

Come from wilderness and wand'ring.
Here in truth, we will be fed.
You that yearn for days of fullness,
all around us is our food.

Taste and see the grace eternal,
taste and see that God is good.

All who hunger, never strangers, seeker, be a welcome guest.

Come from restlessness and roaming. Here in joy we keep the feast.

We that once were lost and scattered, in communion's love have stood.

Taste and see the grace eternal.

Taste and see that God is good.

All who hunger, sing together;
Jesus Christ is living bread.
Come from loneliness and longing.
Here in peace, we have been led.
Blest are those who from this table
live their lives in gratitude.
Taste and see the grace eternal.
Taste and see that God is good.

Text - Sylvia Dunstan

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

The people stand or kneel

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Celebrant pronounces a blessing, to which the congregation responds, "AMEN"

Processional Hymn 555

Lead on, O King eternal

Lancashire

Dismissal

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Voluntary

Phoenix Processional

Dan Locklair

A Warm Welcome to Everyone!

Thank you for worshiping with us today. If you are new to St. Paul's, please fill out a guest card and place it in the offering plate or give it to a greeter or an usher. Please, come visit us again. Our service is live-streamed on YouTube on Sundays at 10:30. Please subscribe to St. Paul's on YouTube to view live-streamed services and concerts.

Prayer List

In our parish

People requesting prayer

| Earl Craig | Tammy Pollock | Tracy Calhoun Sorrenti | Richard O'Rourke |
|-------------------|----------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Fr. John Cawthorn | Lyle Sullivan | Tammy Tilghman | Sharon O'Rourke Berry |
| Anne Laudati | Jim Summey | Michael Justice | Bryce Harrelson |
| Richard Laudati | Joanne Summey | Steve Hatch | Stacey Baker Neal |
| Diane Trubia | Pat Baker | Dean Clay | Capt. Samantha Stillwell |
| William Murphy | William Dennis | - | - |

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Youth Encouraged to Serve as Acolytes and Readers

If you are in the fifth grade or above and you would like to serve as an acolyte or a reader at St. Paul's, we would love to have you. All prospective youth acolytes and readers will be trained. Training is easy. For more information and to sign up, please contact Head Verger, Herb Gant herbgant@gmail.com

Wednesday Eucharists and Light Lunches Return – September 22

St. Paul's will be offering a weekly 12:10 Eucharist on Wednesdays, beginning on September 22. We are planning to offer a light lunch following the service. Lunch will be served in compliance with current COVID restrictions: servers masked and gloved and food served to individuals (not buffet style). Suggestions for food offerings include hoagies and chips, casserole and salad, soup and sandwich, chef salad, etc. The lunch crew members would be responsible for set up, food service and clean-up. There are hospitality funds available for reimbursements. If you would like to serve as a part of a lunch crew, please contact Teresa Singer teresabsinger@gmail.com.

Deanery Confirmation Service Hosted at St. Paul's – October 3

On *Sunday October 3rd at 3:00 pm*, St. Paul's will be hosting a deanery wide service of Holy Eucharist with Confirmation, Reception, and Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows. Bishop Skirving will be presiding. If you desire to be confirmed, received into the Episcopal Church, reaffirm your baptismal vows, or simply want to know more about the process please contact Fr. Caleb at <u>rector@spechurch.com</u>.

Children's Ministry Calendar

Meet and Greet - *Sunday, September 12*, our Children's Ministry Team will host a Meet and Greet Breakfast for Sunday school teachers, children and their parents from 9:30 – 10:15 am upstairs in the Children's Wing.

Sunday School Kickoff - *September 19* at 9:30 am will kick-off the beginning of Sunday school as we Grow Together in Faith. Teachers and students are asked to "Mask UP!" each week. If you would like to be a part of this ministry, please contact Meaghan Thomas at speckids@spechurch.com

Sunday Morning Hospitality Begins Again September 12

On September 12, St. Paul's will begin its ministry of hospitality by offering breakfast following the 8 am service and a reception following our 10:30 am service. Things will no doubt look a little different than our pre-COVID offerings, but the spirit of welcome, fellowship and food will still be the main ingredients. Breakfast food will be served from the kitchen instead of buffet style. Reception food will be served by our hospitality team members, who will be masked and gloved, offering individual servings.

Stewardship Book Study – September 14

Please join us September 14 at 7:30 AM or 6:30 PM for a discussion of A SPIRITUALITY OF FUNDRAISING by Henri J. M. Nouwen. Both sessions will be held via Zoom. The link is on the front page of the website. This study is part of the St. Paul's Year-Round Stewardship Program. All participants are invited to read this short book prior to the discussion, which will be led by Steve Martin. It is available at christianbook.com or amazon.com as a Kindle, audiobook or paperback.

Service Participants

8:00 AM

Celebrant and Preacher - The Reverend Caleb J. Lee Verger - Leon Tillery Altar Server and Lector - Louise Buck Greeter - Tom Gerow

10:30 AM

Celebrant and Preacher - The Reverend Caleb J. Lee

Verger - Leon Tillery

Crucifer - Don Brainard

Altar Server - Carolyn Demorest

Gospel Book Bearer - Ruth Gates

Lectors - Teresa Singer, Linda Miller

Intercessor - Sally Pope

Greeter - Carol Field

Ushers - Don Bobo David Fowle Cynthia Smallwood

Ushers – Don Bobo, David Fowle, Cynthia Smallwood, Jerry West, Mark Tedesco

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Relief from the exterior of the Amsterdam Civic Orphanage, 1581. Amsterdam Historical Museum.

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The Rt. Rev. Robert Skirving, Bishop
The Rev. Caleb J. Lee, Rector
Ronnie D. Wise, Director of Music and Organist
Richard Rhoads, Assistant Director of Music and Organist
Diane Matz-Kane, Bookkeeper
Louise Buck, Interim Parish Administrator

St. Paul's Vestry

Layne Dupree Sally Pope

Ruth Gates Teresa Singer (Sr. Warden)
Angela Green Tom Sramek (Jr. Warden)

Matt Langley Rhonda Stroud
Steve Martin Meaghan Thomas
Joan Rosko Miller Merry Ann Wright

Denise Sheehan, Clerk Judy Wilson, Treasurer